

REMARKS

Applicants have added new Claims 91-102. Claims 91-95 correspond to previously cancelled Claims 49-53, Claims 96-97 correspond to previously cancelled Claims 55-56. Claims 98 and 99 correspond to previously cancelled Claims 71 and 72, and Claims 100-102 correspond to previously cancelled Claims 74-76. No new matter has been added.

Claims 49-53, 55-56, 71-72, and 74-76 had been previously cancelled to obviate a nonstatutory double patenting rejection after the Examiner had indicated the allowability of the remaining claims. The Examiner has since indicated that the same nonstatutory double patenting rejection also now applies to the remaining claims (*i.e.*, Claims 54, 57-70, 73, and 77-90). After having cancelled Claims 49-53, 55-56, 71-72, and 74-76 in the present case, Applicants filed a Continuation Application (U.S. Patent Application No. 11/147,563) containing claims substantially identical to new Claims 91-102. Applicants have added new Claims 91-102 to consolidate the claims of the two applications and is herewith filing a Terminal Disclaimer and Statement under 37 C.F.R. § 3.73(b) to obviate the nonstatutory double patenting rejection.

CONCLUSION

In view of the above amendments and remarks, it is believed that all claims are in condition for allowance, and it is respectfully requested that the application be passed to issue. If the Examiner believes that a telephone conference would expedite prosecution of this case, the Examiner is invited to call the undersigned.

Respectfully submitted,

HAMILTON, BROOK, SMITH & REYNOLDS, P.C.

By Colin C. Durham
Colin C. Durham
Registration No. 52,843
Telephone: (978) 341-0036
Facsimile: (978) 341-0136

Concord, MA 01742-9133

Dated:

12/23/2005